

## ABSTRACT

5 A fuse cartridge is provided having improved tensile strength via the provision of a mechanical strain wire that is in parallel with a fusible element mechanically but not electrically, thereby increasing the tensile strength of the fusible element without altering the electrical time-current characteristics of the fusible element. In a preferred embodiment, the strain wire is provided by looping a fusible element wire from a first terminal around a second terminal and back near the first terminal but electrically insulated therefrom.